

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4-17, 19-22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 are rejected. With this paper, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24 and 28 are amended, claim 21 is canceled and none are added. The application now includes claims 1, 4-17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office rejected claims based on the following grounds:

- 1. Claims 1, 4-11, 14-25 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford et al. (U.S. Patent 6,901,434, Lunsford hereinafter) in view of Taylor et al. (U.S. Patent 6,865,683, Taylor hereinafter).*
- 2. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford in view of Taylor and further in view of Hepper et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0220966).*
- 3. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford in view of Taylor and further in view of Oh et al. (U.S. Patent 6,865,400).*

In the rejected claims, claims 1, 17, 22 and 28 are independent.

Regarding claim 1, the Office acknowledged that Lunsford does not teach a command to automatically switch off the first mobile terminal device after completion of synchronization, but asserts that this feature can be found in Taylor.

In response to the Applicant's previous remarks, the Office states that Taylor teaches automatically switching off/not switching off of a mobile device after completion of an event or task/non completion of an event or task, and that Taylor shows a clear distinction between a sleep mode and a power down mode and powering off the mobile device can also be done automatically (see page 2 of the Detailed Action).

Applicant respectfully submits that, the automatic power on and off as described by Taylor is different from the "automatically switching off" action as defined in the present

invention. The invention of Taylor allows a user to set a time at which the mobile device will automatically power down, and another time at which the mobile device will wake up (col. 1, lines 30-34, cited by the Examiner). The invention of Taylor also provides for cancellation of the automatic power down or wake up. The cancellation is based on a user input (Abstract, also cited by the Examiner).

It is true that, in Taylor, the sleep mode and the power down mode are not the same. The state diagram of the mobile device of Taylor as shown in Fig. 3 clearly illustrates how the mobile device switches from one mode to another. The mobile device has a wake mode 330, a sleep mode 320, a power down mode 340, and a user interaction (UI) mode 310. The mobile device can switch from one mode to another through an idle state 301. The mobile device can enter the sleep mode automatically after completion of a task, and switch from the sleep mode to the wake mode automatically if there is a scheduled event or a predetermined time period has expired (col. 1, lines 39-42). The power down mode 340, which means the device is shut down so that the auto wake up feature is circumvented, cannot be automatically entered. Entering this mode requires an action by a user such as pressing a hard switch (col. 1, lines 46-50, col. 4, lines 55-67). Taylor further teaches that entering the power down mode also means a cancellation of an automatic wake up so that the device remains in a low power state (col. 6, lines 47-59).

In the present invention the "automatically switching off" is similar to automatically entering the power down mode, not the sleep mode. In the specification, the "switching off the first mobile terminal device after completion of the synchronization" is explained as taking the first mobile terminal device "out of service" after the synchronization is completed (page 3, line 20 and page 6, lines 15-18). Since the first device is "out of service," the user can now take the SIM (subscriber identity module) card from the first device to the second device (page 13, line 38 to page 14, line 1). By ordinary meaning, if a device is "out of service," its service functions are terminated. For example, if the device is out of service, it cannot be waken up by an incoming call, cannot accept a message, does not produce alarm signals for a scheduled event, etc. Therefore, a switching off of the first mobile device which

results in the first mobile device to be out of service is clearly not the same as placing the mobile device in the sleep mode, in which mode the service functions are not disabled. In the present invention, switching off (i.e. power down) is performed automatically whereas in Taylor this is performed manually.

With this paper, claim 1 is amended to add "wherein the automatically switching off of the first mobile terminal device is such that all service functions of the first mobile terminal device are terminated." It is now unmistakable that the switching off is substantially equivalent to entering the power down mode referred to by Taylor. The amendment is believed to have overcome the rejection based on Lunsford and Taylor.


Other independent claims of the application are also amended to be consistent with the amendment to claim 1. Hence, all the independent claims 1, 17, 22 and 28 of the application are believed to be patentable in view of the amendment. Withdrawal of the rejection to these claims, and all dependent claims thereof, is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all of the claims in the instant application are allowable, and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicant's agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if anything in the present response is unclear or unpersuasive.

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